

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OIC-02 /024 W  
----- 094571

R 031748Z APR 75  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9855  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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DEPT FOR PALMER, NEA/RA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CENTO, EAID, PFOR, UK

SUBJECT: CENTO MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY -  
LONDON, APRIL 8 - 10, 1975

REF: STATE 71323

1. WE DISCUSSED SUBJECT MEETING WITH CHARLES HALL, MIDDLE EAST DEPARTMENT, OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT MINISTRY (ODM), AND INFORMED HIM THAT PALMER AND REICH WILL MAKE UP US DELEGATION TO MEETING. HALL STATED THAT CENTO HEADQUARTERS HAS BEEN EXTREMELY SLOW IN PREPARING FOR MEETING, AND HE HAS HAD TO MAKE MOST OF THE LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS. HE WILL BE PASSING EMBASSY INVITATIONS TO US DELEGATION FOR A VARIETY OF SOCIAL FUNCTIONS. FIRST MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 1030 ON TUESDAY, APRIL 8 AT RIVERWALK HOUSE, MILLBANK AT CORNER OF VAUXHALL BRIDGE.

2. UK DELEGATION WILL BE HEADED BY MAURICE SMITH (UNDER SECRETARY FOR ASIA, ODM) AND INCLUDE JOHN REDNALL (HEAD, MIDDLE EAST DEPARTMENT, ODM), JOHN COOK, CHARLES HALL AND FRED WILSON (ALL OF THE MIDDLE EAST DEPARTMENT, ODM). IN ADDITION, MICHAEL JAMES WHO FOLLOWS CENTO AFFAIRS AT UK EMBASSY, ANKARA, AND DAVID STAFFORD FROM ODM'S  
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REGIONAL ASSISTANCE OFFICE IN BEIRUT WILL ATTEND AS OB-

SERVERS.

3. ODM FEELS THE TWO MAIN TOPICS OF DISCUSSION AT MEETING WILL BE THE PROPOSED HIGH-LEVEL ECONOMIC PLANNERS MEETING AND THE PROPOSAL FOR INCREASED CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MULTILATERAL SCIENTIFIC FUND (MSF). ON FORMER, ODM WILL BE QUITE HAPPY IF PLANS FOR HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ARE DROPPED. IT DOESN'T AGREE WITH INCLUSION OF QUESTIONS ON AMOUNT OF DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE UK/US ARE PREPARED TO PROVIDE AND QUESTIONS ON MILITARY AID IN THE AGENDA. IN ADDITION, TURKEY AND PAKISTAN HAVE INDICATED THERE WILL BE LITTLE POINT IN HOLDING MEETING UNLESS UK/US INDICATE WILLINGNESS TO INCREASE FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS. ON MSF, UK AND OTHER MEMBERS OF CENTO HAVE AGREED TO INCREASE CONTRIBUTIONS TO FUND. ODM ANTICIPATES THAT US RELUCTANCE TO INCREASE ITS CONTRIBUTION WILL BE MAJOR POINT OF DISCUSSION EVEN THOUGH AMOUNT RELATIVELY SMALL. ODM "UNDERSTANDS" THAT US WOULD HAVE TO SHIFT FUNDS FROM OTHER CENTO PROGRAMS TO PERMIT INCREASE AS US IS NOT IN POSITION TO INCREASE TOTAL CONTRIBUTION TO CENTO.

RICHARDSON

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